

Appln No. 10/728,154
Amdt date July 9, 2007
Reply to Office action of April 10, 2007

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-26 are pending in the application. Claims 8, 15, 17, 23, and 26 have been amended to make clerical corrections not related to patentability.

In an Office action dated April 10, 2007, the Examiner acknowledged Applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in Korea, but noted that a certified copy of the Korean application had not been filed. Applicant is submitting a certified copy of the priority document with this response.

Applicant notes that the filing date of this application was misstated in the Office action. The Office action stated December 24, 2003 as the filing date, but the correct filing date is December 4, 2003.

The Examiner objected to claims 9-14 and 16-20, rejected claims 23 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. 112, rejected claims 1, 2, and 7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b), objected to claims 3-6 as depending from a rejected base claim, and allowed claims 8-22, 24, and 25. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowed claims. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections in view of the following arguments.

The Examiner objected to claims 9-14 and 16-20 for failing to include preambles that match the parent claims. Claims 8, 15, and 17 have been amended to make this clerical correction to the preambles. Applicant submits that these claims are now in condition for allowance and requests that the Examiner withdraw the stated objection.

The Examiner rejected claims 23 and 26 for failing to end with a period. The claims have been amended to add a period. The Examiner indicated that claim 26 would be allowable if amended, so Applicant submits that claim 26 is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner indicated that claim 23 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim. However, claim 23 depends from allowed claim 21, so rewriting this claim into independent form should not be necessary. Therefore, Applicant submits that amended claim 23 is also in condition for allowance, and requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections of claims 23 and 26.

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The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, and 7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,845,664 to Ryder et al. The Examiner argues that "Figures 6A-6C show a locking pin assembly comprised of a movable button 92, first biasing spring 93, a locking pin member 96 perpendicular to the button 92 and a second biasing member 93', all contained within a 'housing'."

Claim 1 recites a button movable in a first direction from a first position to a second position. The first biasing member biases the button to be normally in the first position. Thus, the button moves from a first position, where it is normally biased, to a second position. When the button moves from the first position to the second, the locking pin member is movable from a third position to a fourth position. The second biasing member normally biases the locking pin member into the third position. Thus, when the button is moved, the locking pin member is movable from a position where the second biasing member normally biases it to the fourth position.

In the Ryder reference, the first pin 92 moves from a first position, where the spring 93 normally biases it, to a second position. However, when the first pin moves, the second pin 96 is movable from a position where the second spring does not normally bias the second pin to a position where the second spring does normally bias the second pin. This is not what is recited in claim 1.

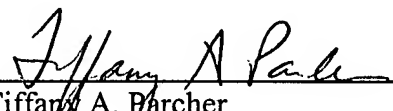
Therefore, Applicant submits that Ryder does not anticipate claim 1 as it does not recite all of the limitations in claim 1. Claims 2 and 7 depend from claim 1 and incorporate all the terms and limitations of claim 1 in addition to other limitations, which together further patentably distinguish claims 2 and 7 over Ryder. Accordingly, Ryder does not anticipate claims 2 and 7 for at least the same reasons stated above for claim 1. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claims 1, 2, and 7.

The Examiner objected to claims 3-6 as being dependent on a rejected base claim. Claims 3-6 depend from claim 2. As argued above, Ryder does not anticipate claim 2, and Applicant therefore requests withdrawal of the objection to claims 3-6.

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In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-7, 23, and 26 are in condition for allowance, and acknowledges that claims 8-22, 24, and 25 have already been allowed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and objections are requested, and a timely Notice of Allowance is solicited. If there are any remaining issues that can be addressed over the telephone, the Examiner is encouraged to call Applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
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